

## ATTENTION INVESTORS WITH LEAR CAPITAL

## STATES RECOUP OVERCHARGES FOR INVESTORS IN COMMODITY FIRM BANKRUPTCY

The Georgia Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Division ("Division") is providing notice to Georgia investors who purchased retail precious metals from Lear Capital, Inc. ("Lear Capital") that they will receive compensation as a part of Lear Capital's bankruptcy plan.

State securities regulators had been investigating Lear Capital for deceptive securities and commodities activities and misleading marketing at the time of the company's bankruptcy. Various regulators had alleged that the Los Angeles-based company, which sells and buys back metals through both direct-to-consumer transactions and self-directed IRA transactions, used deceptive business practices, and violated investor protection laws. These actions were resolved as part of the \$5.5 million bankruptcy settlement.

Under the terms of the bankruptcy plan, Lear Capital will provide \$5.5 million to be distributed to investors in Lear's precious metals. Lear investors that filed a timely bankruptcy claim will receive refunds based on calculations determined by Lear's bankruptcy plan. In addition, Lear Capital will provide a pro rata distribution of the remaining funds to investors who did not file claims. The pro rata distribution applies to investors that bought precious metals from Lear between January 1, 2016, and March 3, 2022.

As a part of Lear Capital's bankruptcy plan, the company has also agreed to improve its sales practices and disclosures, including agreeing not to misrepresent its fee, not to offer portfolio assessments of securities holdings, not to hold itself out as an investment adviser in any way, and not to provide investment advice or commit securities or commodities fraud.

If you purchased precious metals or another investment from Lear Capital, you should not hesitate to contact the Division or Lear Capital if you have any questions regarding the settlement process with Lear Capital.

- You can reach the Division by telephone at 470-312-2640 or by electronic mail at registrations@sos.ga.gov.
- You can also access additional information about the lawsuit and the claims process at LEAR CAPITAL, INC. (creditorinfo.com).